



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held February 1, 2005, the Board took the following action:

60-A

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“AIDS is a devastating and completely preventable disease, yet the HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to spread throughout the country. AIDS is an epidemic that has affected every stratum of society regardless of age, racial and ethnic group.

“In addition to its broad reach, the HIV/AIDS epidemic has disproportionately affected African Americans. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that young African-American gay men are at greater risk for HIV infections than any other group. HIV/AIDS remains the leading cause of death in the United States for all African-American men between 25 and 44 years of age. African Americans have the highest rate of AIDS-related deaths, and are estimated to have lost the largest number of years of productive life when compared to other racial and ethnic groups. Studies suggest that African Americans are more likely than members of other racial and ethnic groups to have multiple adults within a family infected with HIV.

“African Americans comprise less than ten percent of the total population of Los Angeles County, yet account for more than twenty-two percent of all persons living with AIDS in Los Angeles County, and more than twenty-five percent of AIDS cases reported in Los Angeles County in 2000. Nearly forty percent of African Americans living with AIDS in California were diagnosed with AIDS while living in Los Angeles County.

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“There is a clear and critical need for increased awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS among African-Americans, increased HIV counseling and testing as appropriate and enhanced HIV-related medical and social services for African Americans. A comprehensive system of effective HIV prevention, counseling, testing and treatment services for African-Americans should set a standard of services for all people with or at risk for HIV in Los Angeles County.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried (Supervisor Knabe being absent), the Board joined the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Coalition of Los Angeles in proclaiming February 1 through 7, 2005, as “National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Week” throughout Los Angeles County.

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Copies distributed:

- Each Supervisor
- Chief Administrative Officer
- County Counsel

Letter sent to:

- Executive Director,
- National Black HIV/AIDS Day Coalition of Los Angeles